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Asia Anthropology: Science or Spying?

By Stephen Isaacs

Washington Post Staff Writer

NEW YORK, Nov. 21—

One of America's foremost intellectual societies, the American Anthropological Association, ended its 70th annual meeting here today, but it did not end the volatile, distinctly unintellectual uproar within its membership over whether some members' research in Southeast Asia has been more political than scientific.

The association went through two explosive sessions on the issue, finally adopting a position on it late Saturday, a position decrying new dangers in anthropology.

For the last 20 months, the organization has feuded over the implication that some anthropologists working among hill tribes in northern Thailand, supposedly studying ways of life as anthropologists do, were in fact spies for the U.S. Department of Defense and the royal Thai government.

Underlying the thousands of words and multiple sub-issues raised by the various factions is the worry that anthropologists' detailing of the life style of a group of people—including such seemingly mundane details as forest trails, working times, gathering places and so forth—end up in diagrams for a low-level bombing run.

If nothing else, the debate underscores the U.S. government's extensive funding of social scientists' research in Southeast Asia through the Agency for International Development, through the Central Intelligence Agency and through various agencies of the Department of Defense.

One faction of the Anthropological Association believes fellow members in Thailand provided information to help put down revolution. Another faction believes the anthropologists fought government attempts to subdue revolution there.

Activities of the anthropologists in Thailand surfaced in March, 1970, when a research assistant copied documents from the files of Dr. Michael Moerman of the University of California at Los Angeles. The information made its way first to the Student Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam (and into its publication) and to Dr. Eric Wolf, who is chairman of the Anthropological Association's ethics commission.

Dr. Wolf, the students and many other members of the association contend that the documents prove the anthropologists in Thailand were spies.

When Wolf wrote to the four anthropologists identified in the document to obtain explanations, and then told his board that he had done so, the dike opened.

The association's board of directors accused Wolf of exceeding his authority and of acting precipitously, imputing guilt to the four men in his letter without first having talked to them.

Wolf and another ethics committee member, Dr. Joseph G. Jorgensen, both then angrily quit the ethics committee, accusing the organization's leadership of ducking the ethical issue of whether an anthropologist should properly be studying man or, instead, influencing government's hold over men.

"The board," said the two in resigning, "averts its eyes from the real source of a danger which threatens not only the integrity of the association, but the fate and welfare of the people among whom we work."

The issue has since been raised among the membership in furious statements published in the association's monthly news letter.

The board finally appointed a committee to investigate all aspects of the situation, naming its most famous member, Dr. Mar-

The committee's lengthy report was presented at the association's meeting here, and its conclusions—which include absolving any members of ethical wrongdoing in Thailand—were emotionally rejected by the association's membership.

Dr. Mead herself was furious.

"I never intended for anybody to vote up or down on this thing," she told a reporter after a meeting. "You make it clear in your paper that this wasn't intended to be a resolution. It was for background information. I just wanted it presented at the meeting, not voted on. But the board wouldn't let me do it that way."

She indicated that she had been tricked by the board, and said they would not even let her make a statement about the report before it was presented unless she first cleared the wording with board members.

"The makeup of the board changed between the time they asked me to do it and now," she said glumly.

What became clear in the meeting was that the association's younger members see the 69-year-old Dr. Mead as a kind of anthropological Uncle Tom. And it became obvious very quickly that the younger members had the vote. The first vote was 303 to 74 to reject the report's initial portion on anthropological activities in Thailand over the years.

The Mead committee's report made conclusions on all sides of a number of issues, including a provision that Dr. Mead said she considered most important:

"A new ethical imperative has emerged, the obligation to protect data on communities which might expose them to wholesale destruction." This means disguising names, places and identities, she explained.

No one disagreed with that conclusion, but other sections of the report brought hisses and laughs. Its allusions to "McCarthyism of the left" by members who questioned the activities in Thailand were in themselves heckled as McCarthyism.

A contention in the report that studies "under the heading of counter-insurgency" are "much the same activities that were called 'community development' at an earlier time" raised particular hostility.

The report said that expecting funding for research regardless of how it was labeled was "well within the traditional canons of acceptable behavior for the applied anthropologists."

Dr. Steve A. Barnett, a young Princeton social scientist, disagreed, saying that "this is not acceptable behavior for anyone except an imperialist."

Dr. Mead and fellow committee member Dr. David L. Olmsted emphasized that they have read all the evidence available on activities in Thailand, and feel the Americans there were doing only good. "Their affection for the country as a whole seemed to shine through very strongly," said Olmsted.

"At the time," he said, they "hoped to change things for the better." They became disillusioned when their efforts in behalf of hill people were thwarted by the government, he said, and "one by one they dropped out."

Dr. Mead, who was president of the association a decade ago, chided members for talking against taking research money from the Department of Defense.

"Almost everyone in this," she said, "has benefited by funds labeled Defense, or at least their students have."

The mood of the 700 members, after an acrimonious four hours that ended early Saturday, was to get rid of the issue. They voted overwhelmingly to reject the report in full and refer the issue back to the board. Dr. Mead and her committee voted with the majority.

Later Saturday, however, the association unanimously approved a resolution incorporating the sense of the Mead committee's important paragraph. Dr. Mead herself seconded the resolution.

This resolution orders the board to set up a continuing body to study organizations that fund and utilize social scientists "in such areas as

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quity.

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Outdated Bodies, The CIA, All Part of Being 'Modern'

By WILLIAM WELT

WESTMORELAND — The human body is 10,000 years out of date and it's killing us.

The Central Intelligence Agency has infiltrated American scientific and cultural expeditions abroad and is rapidly wearing out its welcome.

If our ancestors had walked instead of sailed, the race problem would be almost nonexistent.

Choosing the man to be a father-image President of the United States is a frightening study in misplaced values.

SO SAID Dr. Irven DeVore, prominent Harvard anthropologist as he addressed about 90 persons last night in the Westmoreland High School auditorium.

The lecture ended the first day of Dr. DeVore's two-day visit to schools here and in New Hartford and Utica sponsored by the National Humanities Faculty program which sends noted college professors to second schools for pupil and faculty instruction.

Covering a range of topics as broad as his field—man and his world—the youthful, eloquent professor fascinated his audience as he had pupils earlier in the day by seeking to explain what they are and how they got that way.

"We're social," said DeVore as he disagreed with the many popular anthropologists, such as Robert Ardrey, author of "The Territorial Imperative," who hold that man is in trouble because he is basically an animal and can never adequately cope with his inner nature.

"My studies of African Bushmen, who live as we all did 10,000 years ago, show that we are just hunter-gatherers who have forgotten how to live.

"The Bushmen sleep 12 hours a day, allow only the young adults to work and work a 20-hour week, but still produce 150 per cent of the food they need—the original affluent society.

"They're all extremely healthy, no cancer and no cavities. We have their bodies, but our pace of life has changed so radically that it's killing us, literally," DeVore explained.

QUESTIONED by a pupil about the CIA, the professor said CIA men are using the cover of anthropologists for spying missions, as well as the covers of teachers, engineers and economic aid personnel in a "hotbed of American espionage."

"When one of these government men blows his cover, it sets back the work of hundreds of anthropologists, or whatever, in a dozen countries—they're no longer welcome."

He said the American Anthropological Association is working to stop this . . . "not an easy task."

Speaking on the race problem, he asserted that there is genetically just one race, a potpourri of genes in us all. When explorers sailed to continents they noticed sharp contrasts in the people, but if they had walked, the changes would have been so gradual as to be unnoticeable.

"Biologists have lost interest in race differences," he said, "it's just not significant and not an interesting problem to them."

Intelligence tests don't show mental differences in the races, only differences in background, DeVore explained. There are about 19 million black people in America whose

life expectancy, because of ghetto conditions, is nine years less than white men—multiplying, we find that ghettos have cost us 100 million years of human life, he said, "an incredible tragedy."

"Nixon—in fact no one—is suited to be the father of half of the world, with the other half looking to Russia. The world is now much too complex for two men to hold the emotional and physical safety of everyone in their hands—these men are human and subject to the same behavioral pitfalls we all are. John Kennedy precipitated the Cuban missile crisis to assert his own masculinity and that is appalling," he told his audience.

EXPLAINING that history is an accidental process of randomness, forced choices by men to get food, he warned that industrialized Americans and Europeans are "not the chosen people who have survived because they were somehow right."

"Our ancestors, English and French knights, were just sinewy little gorillas living in draughty, disease-ridden castles who happened to be physically tough enough to survive," DeVore said.

Now, with the advent of our industrialized way of life, institutions such as welfare agencies have had to assume duties that large families of relatives, living together, were

once able to provide, the professor explained.

"Most of the people in the world don't live like we do. Take child rearing—we think it's best to isolate the baby in his own crib, away from the family, to make him an independent empire builder," DeVore said, "but actually only a few build empires and the rest are emotional wash-outs."

He will visit Utica schools today and will speak at 7:30 tonight in the Utica Free Academy Auditorium. Tomorrow at the same time he will lecture in the New Hartford Oxford Road School auditorium. The public is invited.

or to its citizens, whether the data were given in oral, written, or published form.

A few cases have been reported to the Committee in which anthropologists who have worked for intelligence agencies have not been granted visas for travel and research abroad, once their former activities had become known. Some universities also have declined to offer positions to anthropologists who have been employed by one or another intelligence agency. It may also be noted that a Presidential Executive Order prohibits the Peace Corps from employing persons who have worked for the Central Intelligence Agency, and possibly other intelligence agencies as well.

4. It is reported that: The disclosure of contractual arrangements between universities and the Central Intelligence Agency, even though these did not involve research in foreign areas, has in a number of cases cast doubt upon university sponsorship of research abroad, especially in South and Central America. The belief has been voiced that some museums and other institutions that were conducting large research projects in foreign countries have often unwittingly permitted intelligence agents to be included on the staffs of such projects.

The success with which academic institutions can function as sponsors of anthropological research is affected by their contracts and activities in non-anthropological as well as in anthropological matters. Although some individual anthropologists have been guilty of behavior that threatens to impair the access to foreign areas by their colleagues, the greatest dangers have actually come from contracts, actions, and projects of the United States Government and of some academic and private research organizations, even though these did not primarily involve anthropological activities. It would appear, therefore, that anything which impairs the usefulness, credibility, or integrity of the academic institutions as sponsors of research is of the deepest and most immediate concern to anthropologists. (See also Secretary of State Dean Rusk's statement quoted in I B, above.)

5. It also is reliably reported that: In several countries of South and Central America, Africa, and Asia, financing from certain United States governmental sources is suspect and in some cases completely unacceptable. These sources include such mission-oriented agencies as the Department of

Defense, Central Intelligence Agency, Information Agency, and the Department of State. Support by the Agency for International Development (AID), the Peace Corps, or similar agencies is less suspect, whereas the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and the Smithsonian Institution are seldom questioned as legitimate sources of support.

The seriousness of the problems involved in the foregoing varies in different countries and areas of the world and may rapidly change, depending upon international relations and attitudes toward the United States. One anthropologist reports that in the course of two years of field work he was accused variously of being a Castroite, a Chinese communist, a Russian communist, a CIA agent, a FBI agent, a spy for the host nation's taxing agencies, and a Protestant missionary. Only the last caused him serious difficulties, and such an identification given anthropologists generally seems to be the most important field problem in much of South and Central America.

In a significant number of countries, governmental support of research is assumed, even though university funding and sponsorship are claimed, for most people cannot conceive of a situation in which money does not ultimately come from governmental sources. Finally, there are some sections of the world with a long history of international espionage where it is assumed that any foreigner probably is a spy. It is even suggested that in some such countries the "anthropologist"-spy is preferred because he is usually easy to detect or identify and therefore can be given false information.

No easy or complete solutions to these problems can be proposed, of course. Most anthropologists have expressed disapproval of any activities, or the appearance of such activities, that are likely to arouse suspicion or resentment, and hence restrict future anthropological research abroad. It also appears from their reports that suspicion has been allayed when anthropologists who are engaged in legitimate research openly explain their professional affiliations, sponsorship, source of funds, and the nature and purpose of their research—even when such explanations have to be expressed in simple terms to fit the knowledge and experience of the people concerned.

D. Host Country Problems and Criticisms

While an enormous variety of problems are mentioned in connection with host country conditions and attitudes, few if any are universal. Suggested solutions are almost as varied. This report will consider only those which seem to be the more frequent and important problems. These occur, it should be noted, at differing levels—local, provincial, and national—and with regard to officials, scholars, and assistants, if any.

1. *Nationalism and local pride.* In some nations anthropologists are believed to study only "primitives," hence, their very presence is considered to be an affront. In other cases, any data collection or study may be regarded as threatening, either to officials fearful of criticism, or to local populations afraid that the information may lead to retaliation, taxation, or undesired action programs. In some coun-

tries anthropologists have found it helpful to pose as sociologists or other types of social scientists; the ethics of this procedure also have been questioned.

2. *Charges of neo-colonialism and imperialism.* These reactions occur principally among officials and scholars of the host nations. In some cases these are the expression of hostility toward all Western nations, or toward the United States specifically, and may follow standard propaganda lines. Among the more serious charges made is that the United States or foreign scholar is "mining" or "extracting" local data for his own benefit. It is frequently believed that he will make money from his research, or get a higher degree that will enhance his career rather than bring a return either to the persons studied or to the host country. Sometimes it

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anthropologists doing research or being trained in other countries. Another complication has come with an increasing number of other social scientists recently undertaking foreign research. It is clear from the reports of the volunteer area chairmen that too many anthropologists engage in research abroad without adequate preparation and background for the area. This is far more true, however, of social scientists in other disciplines, many of whom have little or no preparation or experience, or who have worked only in European areas. It may also be said that the same criticisms can be made of anthropologists and social scientists from other countries. Finally, it appears that the foreign research projects which most frequently arouse criticism have been large and highly visible projects, often involving survey research techniques, frequently studying topics of national sensitivity, and designed or administered by persons with little specific training for foreign area research.

Whenever United States anthropologists undertake research in foreign countries, they necessarily do so as guests, subject to whatever restrictions or restraints their

hosts wish to impose. Moreover, US anthropologists may not expect fewer restrictions and restraints than those required of anthropologists and social scientists of the host nation. Many of our members may think this is laboring the most obvious, but a reading of the materials collected by the volunteer area chairmen, or submitted directly to the Committee, makes it clear that a significant number of anthropologists either do not recognize these facts or do not accept them. Where civil disorder exists, anthropologists can expect restrictions on access to designated regions and groups. Anthropologists who engage in local politics or social movements, who promote ideologies, or who criticize local administrators or governments may expect to encounter hostilities and restrictions upon their activities. In short, reports indicate that a noticeable number of anthropologists encountering problems in research abroad have created their own difficulties. (A number of specific problems reported by the volunteer area chairmen for different foreign areas or countries are discussed on the next section.)

C. Problems of Disclosure, Identification, and Integrity

Although these related problems are extremely complex, they will be presented here in a relatively simple form.

A major problem for anthropology and anthropologists in many parts of the world is the suspicion or belief that they are engaged in non-anthropological activities, or that the information they are collecting will be used for non-scientific and harmful ends. There is some basis for these suspicions and beliefs. From the data submitted by the volunteer area chairmen, the statements given below can be made with considerable confidence. But what is more important than the question of the validity of these reports is the fact that the belief or suspicion that they may be true has already been harmful to legitimate anthropological research.

1. *It is reported that:* Agents of the intelligence branches of the United States Government, particularly the Central Intelligence Agency, have posed as anthropologists or asserted that they were doing anthropological research, when in fact they were neither qualified as anthropologists nor competent to do basic anthropological studies. Journalists and others from the United States and elsewhere have also posed as anthropologists, and even though not involved in secret intelligence work for agencies of their governments, they have, through their behavior, created difficulties for legitimate anthropologists and their research.

2. *It is reported that:* Some of those qualified by training to call themselves anthropologists, and representing themselves as engaged in anthropological research, have actually been affiliated with United States intelligence agencies, especially the Central Intelligence Agency. This has come about through direct employment by these agencies, or through accepting grants from certain foundations with questionable sources of income, or through employment by certain private research organizations. In some cases, such persons have falsely represented themselves as still being associated with universities, although their prior academic affiliations no longer existed. It should be noted that situations of the same kind exist among anthropologists from countries other than the United States. However, one deplorable aspect of the

present situation is the frequency of loose, completely unsubstantiated, and often scarcely credible allegations of spying or intelligence activities made by a few anthropologists against their colleagues.

3. *It is said that:* Some anthropologists, particularly younger ones, who have encountered difficulties in securing funds for legitimate research, have been approached by obscure foundations or have been offered supplementary support from such sources, only to discover later that they were expected to provide intelligence information, usually to the Central Intelligence Agency. Some anthropologists are reported to have sought such support and to have accepted commissions willingly. Both such reports are probably rumors, and little verified information has reached the Committee. Such foundations or alleged foundations cannot be listed by name, but may be identified among those that do not publish balance sheets indicating the sources of their funds.

A few anthropologists report that they were approached by U.S. Embassy officials in the countries where they worked, or that they were interviewed by representatives of intelligence agencies after they had returned. In some cases the information requested appears to represent legitimate interests, as when an anthropologist returned from an area which no member of the U.S. Embassy had visited and the information requested was of a general and public nature.

The reactions of anthropologists to such situations have varied greatly. A few would give no information to any government agency or representative. On the other hand, some have volunteered information when they encountered situations which they felt might be harmful to relations between the host nation and the United States, or when information might improve United States understanding and policy, and, in some cases, when they felt that serious interests of the United States were threatened. It should be observed, however, that even in such situations the overwhelming majority of anthropologists have said they would give no information that might prove harmful either to the host nation

Anthropologists Vote 12 to 1 to Oppose Joining in "Secret Intelligence Work"

By J. V. Reistrup
Washington Post Staff Writer

By a 12 to 1 margin, leading American anthropologists have adopted a policy statement that says scholars in their field should keep away from secret Government intelligence work.

"Academic institutions and individual members of the academic community, including students, should scrupulously avoid both involvement in clandestine intelligence activities and the use of the name of anthropology, or the title of anthropologist, as a cover for intelligence activities," according to the statement approved by the Fellows of the American Anthropological Association.

The Fellows are the ultimate source of authority of the 4400-member Association, which has members in Canada and Mexico as well as the United States. They must have a Ph.D. degree or its equivalent in professional publication or teaching experience, and they must be recommended by another Fellow.

Nearly two-thirds of the Fellows returned the ballots mailed out in January, and the margin of approval was 729 to 59.

As students of social systems, past and present, the anthropologists consider foreign field studies vital to their discipline. Their concern crystallized two years ago with the furor of Project Camelot, financed by the Army through American University to study the possibility of civil war in Chile.

The Anthropological Association named one of its number, Ralph L. Beals of the University of California at Los Angeles, to look into the problem of ethics and research. He reported the results to the Association's annual meeting last fall and the mail ballot followed.

Some of the highlights of the policy statement:

- "Constraint, deception and secrecy have no place in science."

- "The international reputation of anthropology has been damaged" by people claiming

to be carrying out anthropological studies when actually "pursuing other ends." The Beals study cites reports that CIA agents use anthropology as a cover for intelligence activity overseas.

- "There is also good reason to believe that some anthropologists have used their professional standing and the names of their academic institutions as cloaks for the collection of intelligence information and for intelligence operations."

- Scholars ought to think twice about accepting even innocent contracts from the Defense Department and "other mission-oriented branches," for fear of losing access to future research.

- Unless Congress declares war, colleges and universities should not get into studies "not related to their normal functions of teaching, research, and public service."

- The Fellows "deplore" unnecessary secrecy on reports prepared under Government contract, and excessive security rules on the scholars who carry them out.

SNOOPER AGENCIES

They're the Anthropologists' Handicap

By JOHN J. GREEN

THE AMERICAN anthropologist overseas is packing excess baggage these days — the burdensome suspicion that he's interested in more than old bones and tribal customs.

For trudging along with him through African thatched huts or among Peruvian ruins is the cloak and dagger specter of American super intelligence gathering agencies.

Justified or not, the idea that the traveling academician digs spy work has grown since the end of World War II. Suspicion has grown to such disturbing proportions

that the scholarly American Anthropological Association has decided after a year-long self-examination that something should be done.

The report issued this winter by the association indicts some members of the profession for a dangerous flirtation with intelligence agencies.

Wayne State University anthropologist Dr. James Christensen, a veteran of several field studies in Africa, took part in the study and feels it is a well-timed antidote for an infection that runs through the ranks of social scientists.

"Any more of these incidents (publicized examples of scholarly espionage) could close off valuable research doors in the future," he says.

He supports a resolution offered at a Cleveland meeting of the association this winter suggesting that anthropologists close their files to the agencies "except in times of clear and present emergency."

The study and the subsequent academic wrist-slapping followed confusion overseas over Michigan State University's Vietnam mission where CIA personnel reportedly invaded the halls of academia thousands of miles from the East Lansing campus.

This, plus the widely-publicized "Camelot Affair" in Chile, an ill-fated project to study the history of revolutions, have stirred anthropologists to patch up a badly torn international reputation.

Camelot was a particular concern because anthropologists were directly involved.

The Camelot suspicions were based partly on the nature of the study itself, but the source of a multi-million-dollar grant and of the research organization involved also led to charges that the United States government was "messing around in internal affairs."

The money (\$7 million) came from the Department of Defense to be administered through the Special Operations Research Office (SORO), an ominous title not destined to allay suspicion.

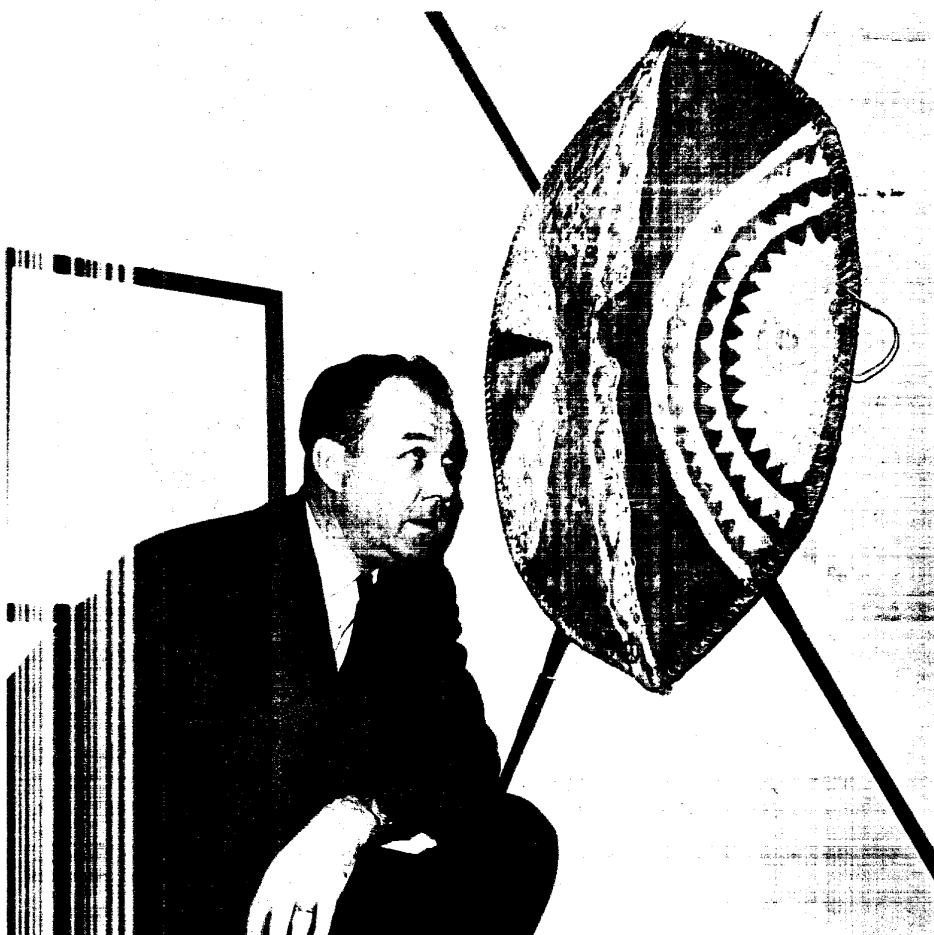
The Chile government's reaction was immediate and strong. The lone anthropologist, on the scene to recruit domestic team members, was hustled home and the project scrubbed.

Christensen says the reasons for the Chilean cold shoulder were many, including the size of the grant (three times higher than the total annual budget for the country's leading university) and the fact that it contemplated weaning away the country's own scholars for the team.

"There was no evidence SORO was a CIA cover. It may have been, but one does not know," admits Christensen, who adds there was no evidence of attempts to "subvert the government."

But he recognizes some reason for apprehension, describing SORO, a private research group housed at American University in Washington, as "a bunch of ex-colonels" with close ties to official circles. It has no official connection with the university.

Christensen, who takes a circumspect view of the problem of academic spying, sees it as one of subtleties and with a



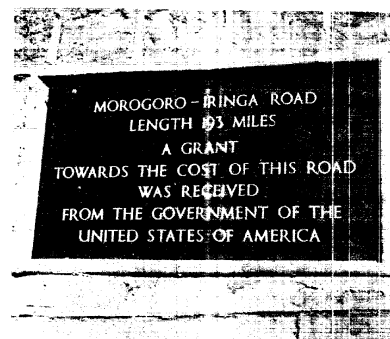
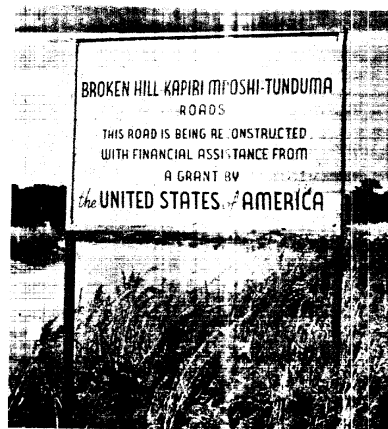
Photos by Dr. James Christensen

On several research trips to Africa, Wayne State University anthropologist James Christensen picked up souvenirs of the continent. One of them is a ceremonial mask from the Congo. (Continued)



Says Dr. Christensen, shown with a colleague at their tent home in Africa: "Publicized espionage incidents could close valuable research doors."

SNOOPER AGENCIES CONTINUED



*'You're academically dead,'
he warns anthropologists*

anthropology who took a Washington desk job with the CIA. "There was nothing secret about it," he says. "He was screening newspaper clippings."

Soon, a "rich farmer" appeared on the scene with money for the young anthropologist to do research in one of the African countries.

The prospective host government took a dim view of the "unknown benefactor" and refused a visa.

"You're academically dead," warns Christensen to young members of his profession similarly tempted.

Backlash from the Vietnams and the Camelots is being felt in the field, Christensen declares. There is careful screening now at all levels of government in host countries and the need for clearance by local universities there. The slightest suspicion, justified or not, can lead to long visa delays or no visa at all.

(Continued)

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Scientists Debate Gumshoe Work

By WILLIAM HINES

A subject not officially on the program gripped the attention of many scientists attending the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science here last week. It related to the propriety of undercover intelligence activities in foreign countries in the guise of legitimate scientific research.

A deplorable amount of CIA-type gumshoe work apparently goes on abroad, camouflaged—with varying degrees of authenticity—as anthropological investigation, botanical or zoological field research, geological exploration, and whatnot. The situation has become so notorious overseas that traveling American scientists are worried about their future effectiveness and their rapport with foreign colleagues.

It was probably more than mere coincidence that the AAAS' official magazine, "Science," featured in the issue current at the meeting a lengthy article on the science-vs.-espionage controversy.

The article focused on problems faced by anthropologists, using as its news peg a report of a meeting of the American Anthropological Association a few weeks earlier at Pittsburgh.

The difficulty arising when government snoops invade the scientific field breaks down into three broad areas:

1. Spies posing as scientists usually perform so ineptly in the scientific role that American science is disgraced thereby.
2. Scientists succumbing to the blandishments and pressures of spy-procurers usually perform so ineptly in the espionage role that their good faith as scientists is shattered.
3. Scientists rebuffing the appeals of the spy-hustlers often find their patriotism called into question, with the implied possibility that they may end up on some

fund-granting agency's blacklist.

The question of scientific funding is a vexing one in this connection, since the vast preponderance of scientific research and study money, these days comes from the federal treasury. Not all this money is channeled through agencies which scientists would normally regard as scientifically responsible.

"Research grants from the National Institute of Mental Health, the National Science Foundation and the Smithsonian Institution (are) less suspect abroad than . . . research grants from the U.S. Information Agency, the CIA and the Defense and State Departments, and . . . most anthropologists would prefer government support from the three first-named agencies," Science said.

The statement was based on findings of a panel of scientists headed by Ralph L. Beals of the University of California (Los Angeles), a former president of the American Anthropological Association. The Beals study was instituted after the "Camelot" fiasco, a purportedly scientific research project in Chile which was unmasked as a psychological warfare exercise, to the horror of the Chilean government. Another was later revealed in the Republic of Colombia.

It seems to be shockingly easy for an anthropologist—for example—to get a "Scientific" grant these days, even after reputable public and private foundations turn him down. Beals' report, quoted in Science, said:

"Some anthropologists, particularly younger anthropologists, who have encountered difficulties securing financing for legitimate research undertakings, have been approached by obscure foundations . . . only to discover later they were expected to provide intelligence information, usually to the CIA . . ."

As it does abroad with false-front "private businesses" (which fool nobody in the countries concerned), the CIA apparently maintains dummy "educational foundations" at home, equipped to disburse money to young scientists—and to do little else.

A Loren Eiseley or a Margaret Mead, loaded with prestige and too busy for cloak-and-dagger foolishness, can thumb his or her nose at these questionable sources of funds. But as long as the academic rule of "publish or perish" hangs over young men and women, the scientific bucket-shops of the "intelligence community" are likely to flourish.

Typical of so much of the ham-handed spy work of U.S. gumshoes, this sort of hanky-panky backfires on the nation whose tax money supports it. A former executive secretary of the Anthropological Association complained to a Senate committee last summer about discourtesy and worse on the part of some anthropologists operating abroad.

Quite frequently, Science magazine noted, U.S. scholars fail to co-operate with fellow scientists in "host" countries, even to the extent of neglecting to send back reports of their work. There may be more than just bad manners involved here, however; there is always the possibility that some spy-master may have slapped a "Top Secret" stamp on the grantee's research, thus preventing his fulfilling a basic nicety of science.

Although no vote was taken or formal consensus reached at the AAAS meeting here last week, there is little doubt where most U.S. scientists stand on the issue of science-vs.-spying. The world image of American science is so good—and of American intelligence work so bad—that the gumshoes should desist before they ruin the former without improving the latter.

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Gown and Dagger

Milwaukee Journal

Concern is growing among scholars that the academic gown may join the cloak and dagger as symbols of spying. The concern was obvious at the American Anthropological association convention in Pittsburgh.

Ralph L. Beals, a California anthropologist and former president of the association, reported on the alarming infiltration of the spy influence into supposedly legitimate scholarly research abroad. He found that United States intelligence agents posing as anthropologists were at work in some countries—"anthropological spies," he called them—and that young scholars who received government grants later were questioned by intelligence agents for political information.

The amount of intelligence work conducted under the guise of academic research is, of course, secret. Enough suspicious incidents have come to light to be disquieting. Eighteen months ago, Project Camelot, an army sponsored study of revolutionary change in Chile, was abruptly canceled after it caused a furor in that country. A government sponsored "technical assistance" program in Vietnam run by Michigan State university in the 1950's seems to have used CIA operatives.

The anthropologists decided that spying was a sufficient danger to academic pursuits to establish a set of "ethical guidelines" for scholars on government sponsored projects. Their concern is understandable, for the suspicion that spies are masquerading as scholars can destroy the effectiveness of legitimate studies abroad. As Beals told the anthropologists, "constraint, deception and secrecy have no place in science."

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NEWS AND COMMENT

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Anthropologists' Debate: Concern over Future of Foreign Research

by Bryce Nelson

Perhaps more than the members of other academic disciplines, U.S. anthropologists are apprehensive about being able to continue their "laboratory" work. Many find an increasing number of impediments blocking the foreign-area research which they feel is absolutely essential to their profession.

Last year, in the wake of the wreck of Project Camelot, the Anthropological Association commissioned its executive board to explore the profession's relationships with the agencies which sponsor foreign research. The board received a \$21,750 grant from the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, and appointed Ralph L. Beals, of the University of California, Los Angeles, a past president of the association, to report on the subject.

During 1966, Beals spent 8 months preparing his report. He and Stephen T. Boggs, then the association's executive secretary, interviewed anthropologists throughout the country concerning their foreign research experience and held extensive conversations with relevant government officials in Washington. Beals traveled to Latin America to gather more data. In addition, 40 other anthropologists asked their colleagues for information on their particular areas of foreign research. It is estimated that approximately 500 anthropologists contributed to the Beals report, although some questioned the propriety of having their association inquire into such matters.

After first presenting his findings to the executive board, Beals discussed his conclusions at the annual meeting in Pittsburgh last month in preparation for proposed action by the Fellows of the association. One of the most disturbing aspects of U.S. governmental activity to anthropologists is the suspected use of anthropology as a cover for intelligence operations. On the basis of information gained from reports from the field, Beals said he can state "with considerable confidence" that:

1) "Agents of the intelligence branches of the United States Govern-

ment, particularly the CIA, have posed as anthropologists. . . ."

2) "Anthropologists . . . have been full- or part-time employees of the United States intelligence agencies including the CIA especially, either directly, or through grants from certain foundations with questionable sources of income, or as employees of private research organizations. . . ."

3) "Some anthropologists, particularly younger anthropologists, who have encountered difficulties securing financing for legitimate research undertakings, have been approached by obscure foundations . . . only to discover later they were expected to provide intelligence information, usually to the CIA. . . ."

Anthropologists react to such requests in a variety of ways, Beals noted. Some refused to give information to any representative of the U.S. Government. Others give information which they think may improve U.S. understanding and policy. Even in such cases, Beals reported, "the overwhelming majority of anthropologists believe they should give no information which might prove harmful either to the host country or to individuals in the host country."

Beals found that research grants

from the National Institute of Mental Health, the National Science Foundation, and the Smithsonian Institution were less suspect abroad than were research grants from the U.S. Information Service, the CIA, and the Defense and State departments, and that most anthropologists would prefer government support from the three first-named agencies.

In addition to being concerned about intelligence operations, many anthropologists were dissatisfied with the State Department's Foreign Affairs Research Council. [The council was created after the demise of Project Camelot, to judge the foreign research proposals supported by various federal agencies (*Science*, 10 Sept. and 10 Dec. 1965)]. Beals said that the work of some anthropologists had been delayed by the review process, and that, although there was no evidence of council censorship so far, the potential of such research censorship existed. Beals also said that the council would not necessarily prevent future Camelot-type operations.

"There are strong reasons to suspect that private organizations offering 'systems' approaches but without competent social science staffs or experience with problems of foreign area research are contracting to do very large-scale Camelot-type studies in countries where this is acceptable to the U.S. Ambassador and the host country," Beals said. "Experienced personnel do not exist for research on this scale. Young, partially trained, and inexperienced people are being recruited and in some cases literally seduced by extravagant salaries." Beals warned his fellow

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The CIA's Cloak-and-Dagger Scholars

Two separate items in *The New York Times* the other day underscored the seriousness of a problem that has been deeply troubling scholars in the behavioral sciences ever since the Project Camelot scandal exploded last year.

Project Camelot was an Army-funded project to study conditions of social change and unrest in underdeveloped countries. It was designed, in the words of its Pentagon director, to "help us to predict potential use of the American Army in any number of cases where the situation might break out." Large numbers of independent American and foreign scholars were enlisted, or were scheduled to be enlisted, to carry out research in a number of countries overseas. When the intent and the sponsorship of the project became known in Chile last year, there was an outburst of nationalist resentment that deeply embarrassed U.S.-Chilean relations and led to abrupt cancellation of the whole multimillion dollar program.

The repercussions of Project Camelot and of other programs in which supposedly independent

scholars have been pressed into the service of U.S. military and intelligence agencies were reflected in a warning delivered at a meeting of the American Anthropological Association at Pittsburgh last Thursday. Dr. Ralph L. Beals, professor of anthropology at the University of California, said that secrecy and pressures from government intelligence agencies were eroding the effectiveness and prestige of American scholarly research abroad. He said that some American scholars already have been subjected to "increasing restrictions" on their work overseas.

The seriousness of the problem Dr. Beal defined was borne out by a news item from Guatemala in the same issue of the *Times* that carried the report of the Pittsburgh meeting. It reported that an American archaeologist, Robert E. Moran, of Salt Lake City, was killed by two Guatemalans who thought he was a United States intelligence agent.

The Guatemalans may have been mistaken. But that does not help Mr. Moran, or other U.S. scholars whose work has been handicapped

and whose very lives are endangered because of the known association of some American scholars with intelligence and related activities.

Project Camelot is dead and is not likely to be resurrected. The Pentagon has probably learned its lesson. But the CIA continues to maintain large numbers of talented scholars on its payroll, many openly; some, no doubt, secretly.

CIA apologists argue that most of the agency's work is open and clean. This may well be. But the problem is that the few who are secret, those who carry out the "dirty" work that is a relatively small but vital part of the Intelligence Agency's total effort, serve practically to contaminate all scholars, in and out of government service, in the eyes of those with whom they must work. Isn't it time the cloak-and-dagger function was isolated from the larger and different task of accumulating and digesting open intelligence so that all American scholars once more can function freely and in the open, the only atmosphere conducive to sound and vigorous scholarship?

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US SCIENTISTS IN THE SERVICE OF CIA

-- Warsaw, Trybuna Ludu, 21 Nov 66, p 2

At a meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Dr. Ralph L. Beals, chief representative of this scientific discipline in the United States, said that the use of scientists by intelligence agencies lowers the prestige, decreases the opportunities for conducting genuine scientific research abroad, and casts a shadow on the entire scientific community of the USA.

Dr. Beals gave examples of young scientists receiving lavish government scholarships, not only for their scientific work, but also for collecting information of the intelligence type. Many of these scientists are not even briefed initially of what the idea is; only later do they find out when representatives of government agencies question them on matters totally irrelevant to their scientific activity.

Dr. Beals recalled the notorious "Camelot" project in Chile, "sociological" research, financed by the United States Army, which had to be liquidated because of the indignation of the Chilean community. The speaker added that another program -- this time in Venezuela -- which was conducted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), almost met a similar fate when it was discovered that MIT was working under a contract for CIA.

These instances, Dr. Beals further added, strengthened the arguments abroad that information collected by American scientists can be used against the interests of the countries in which scientific research is being conducted.

The speech of Dr. Beals must be projected against the background of the July 1966 congressional hearings on the resolution of Senator Fred Harris of Oklahoma concerning the creation of a National Foundation of Social Sciences.

This resolution was set off by the fact that many countries, being afraid of penetration by American intelligence through -- moreover, an unusual number in the USA -- groups of specialists in social sciences, refuse to admit these specialists in their territory. -- Zygmunt Broniarek

SCIENTIFIC STUDIES SEEN ENDANGERED

Anthropologists Warned in Spying

An important group of social scientists was told here last night that attempts to do part-time undercover work for the government could work against the long-range interests of the United States.

Prof. Ralph Beals, an anthropologist with the University of California at Los Angeles, said he believes some anthropologists may have done part-time intelligence work while retaining their positions as university faculty members.

But he added:

"I can't prove that."

Beals has completed a nationwide study of the relationships between his profession and intelligence operations.

He reported his findings here at a meeting of 2500 to 3000 anthropologists—scientists who study human cultures, mankind's remote past, and racial characteristics.

His report is expected to serve as a basis for guidelines to be drawn up by the American Anthropological Association during its four-day annual meeting at the Hilton Hotel. Actions taken by the group are to be made public late tomorrow or Sunday.

In an interview, Beals said his report cites nationwide discontent among anthropologists because of restrictions on their work overseas.

He said the social scientists are ham-

pered by regulations controlling dissemination and discussion of research findings, disclosure of the identities of research sponsors and even disclosure of the purposes of the research.

Beals said he believes some anthropologists are being "seduced into undercover work" by offers of grants from phony foundations—"from organizations who need information, although they are not necessarily related to government."

Creating Suspicious Overseas

Such actions, he said, are creating suspicion of anthropologists in many overseas countries.

"We have to have the confidence of the people we're studying, and we can't get it if they think we're spies," he declared.

Beals said he found hints that some CIA men had posed as anthropologists, but added that "much of this is in the domain of rumor."

Beals noted that the United States Government uses information obtained by anthropologists and hires some on a full-time basis.

Consequently, he said, government should also give more support to anthropology in the area of basic research, training, and by "not doing things that hurt anthropologists" (such as restricting their access to other countries).

Solution in Changing Titles

The entire problem was brought into focus last year when the Army's \$4 million Project Camelot, a study of how Communists capitalize on revolutionary change in developing countries, was widely criticized and eventually canceled.

The project, to have been carried out in Chile, was described as a study of "insurgency and counter-insurgency."

Beals said he thinks part of the problem could have been solved by changing the project's description to "problems of conflict and conflict resolution."

Few anthropologists were involved in Project Camelot, Beals said, but he added that the problems it represented are of interest to all universities doing research in social science fields overseas.

A similar problem cropped up last April when Michigan State University was linked to CIA operations in Viet Nam. The university allegedly served as a front for CIA agents while engaged in a multi-million-dollar project advising the government of former Viet Nam president Ngo Dinh Diem.